

GARY R. HERBERT Lieutenant Governor

## State of Utah Department of Commerce

FRANCINE GIANI Executive Director THAD LEVAR Deputy Director

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## MEDIA ALERT

## <u>Utah Commerce Department Announces Settlement in Gold's Gym Case</u>

"Settlement Sends Good News to Lifestyles Fitness Members" (For immediate release...)

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Francine Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce, announced today that Utah members of Lifestyles 2000 (now Gold's Gym) will have more access to area fitness centers thanks to a settlement between both parties.

"This settlement is a win for Utah consumers, "said Giani, "Now original Lifestyles members will have expanded access to Gold's Gym fitness centers as well as more choices with their gym memberships."

An investigation was launched after the Division of Consumer Protection received many complaints from Lifestyles Fitness members. Callers claimed Gold's Gym was refusing to refund membership fees when the company attempted to close two Utah locations and was requiring Lifestyles members to upgrade to Gold's Gym memberships. A lawsuit was then submitted on behalf of the Division of Consumer Protection by the Utah Attorney Generals Office.

The settlement states Gold's Gym will honor agreements with Lifestyles members by offering the following; current Salt Lake and Utah County Lifestyles members can use a Gold's basic level of membership for 6-months (or until original Lifestyles membership expires) at seven Salt Lake or two Utah County fitness centers after which they will choose to revert to their Lifestyles basic level or upgrade to a Gold's membership for a nominal fee. The settlement also offers Lifestyles members who upgraded to Gold's memberships prior to this agreement the choice to return to their original Lifestyles 2000 contract or keep Gold's contract within 30-days of their current expiration date. Gold's Gym also agrees to honor Lifestyles members' current lifetime or annual renewal contracts indefinitely according to the original terms of contract.

For members questions regarding this settlement, please contact the Division of Consumer Protection at (801) 530-6601 or log on to www.dcp.utah.gov.

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